

What is claimed is

1. An antimicrobial, tubular, single- or multilayer polymer-based foodstuff casing premoistened so as to be ready-to-fill, which comprises, as antimicrobial constituent, an alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate and/or a salt thereof.
2. The foodstuff casing as claimed in claim 1, wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate or its salt contains from 1 to 10, preferably from 1 to 6, particularly preferably from 2 to 5, carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety.
3. The foodstuff casing as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate and/or its salt has been combined with at least one other antimicrobial agent.
4. The foodstuff casing as claimed in claim 3, wherein the other antimicrobial agent is an agent which reduces water activity, i.e. a_w value.
5. The foodstuff casing as claimed in claim 4, wherein the agent which reduces water activity is glycerol or propanediol.
6. The foodstuff casing as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 5, whose inner side has been impregnated with at least one component which improves peelability.
7. The foodstuff casing as claimed in claim 6, wherein the component which improves peelability is a cellulose derivative or starch derivative, an alginate, or chitosan.
8. A process for the production of the foodstuff casing as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 7, which comprises premoistening the casing with an aqueous solution in which the proportion of all of the antimicrobial agents together is from 0.1 to 8% by weight, preferably from 0.2 to 2% by weight.

9. The process as claimed in claim 8, wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate and/or its salt is applied in one step with the water serving for premoistening to the inner and/or outer side of the tubular film.
10. The process as claimed in claim 9, wherein the aqueous solution is applied by spraying.
11. The process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the aqueous solution is applied with the aid of a spray mandrel to the inner side of the casing, while it is shirred.
12. The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the aqueous solution comprises at least one component which makes the casing easy to peel.
13. The use of the foodstuff casing as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 7 as synthetic sausage-casing.